

AN ORDINANCE amending Ordinance
Number G-10-84 dealing with Historic
Preservation Districts.

WHEREAS, The Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, by
passage of Ordinance Number G-10-84 has created Chapter 151 of the Municipal Code of
the City entitled "Historic Preservation and Protection Districts."

WHEREAS, Sections 151.10 through 151.13 of Chapter 151 provide
procedures by which areas may be designated as "Historic Districts."

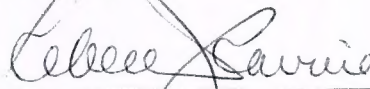
WHEREAS, G-10-84 needs to be amended to reflect the additional
designation of one (1) property as a Historic District.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:

Section 1. The property listed as 302 East Berry Street is hereby designated a
Historic Preservation District, and in that regard Ordinance Number G-10-84 is hereby
amended by adding thereto at Section 151.02 (B) thereof the designation herein made.

Section 2. The map submitted herewith as Exhibit "A" is approved and it is noted
that all legal steps have been taken by the Historic Preservation Review Board pursuant to
Section 151.10 through 151.13 of Chapter 151 of the Municipal Code.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its
passage and any and all necessary approval by the Mayor.

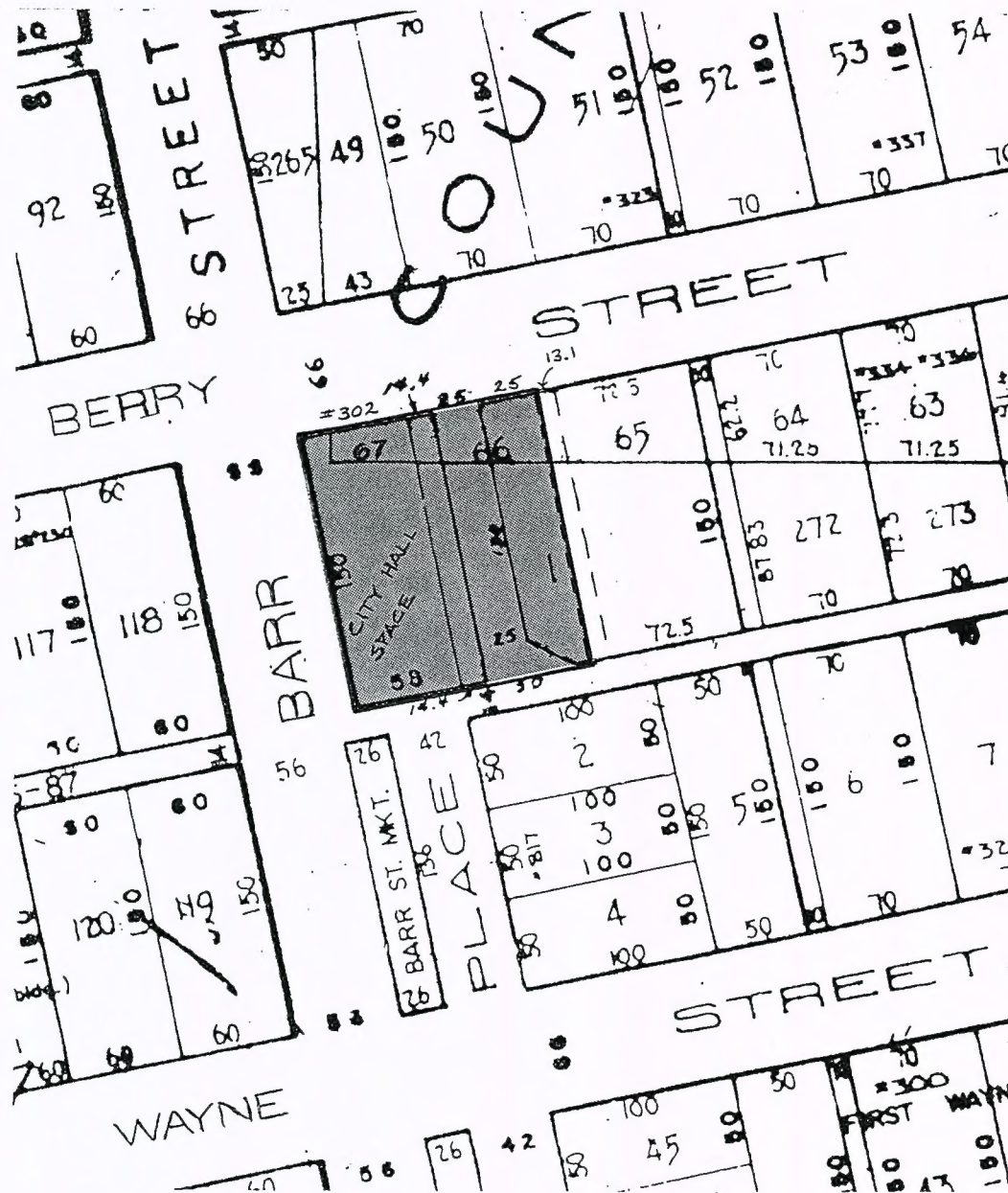

Council Member

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY


J. Timothy McCaulay, City Attorney

ALLEN CO./FT. WAYNE HISTORICAL MUSEUM
(THE CITY BUILDING/OLD CITY HALL)
302 EAST BERRY STREET
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

HISTORIC DISTRICT DESIGNATION



- SUBJECT PROPERTY

STAFF REVIEW OF
HISTORIC DISTRICT APPLICATION

Applicant: William J. Decker

Case No.: HPRB 8-25-97HD

Subject Property: 302 E. Berry Street

Historic Name: The City Building (Old Fort Wayne City Hall)

Common Name: Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society (The Old City Hall Museum)

Legal Description: W 64.4 ft Lot 66 ex alley & Lot 67 County Addition

Date of Review: August 25, 1997

Cultural Resources Survey Information:

Rating: Outstanding

Style: Richardsonian Romanesque

Use: Museum

Condition: Good

Construction Date: 1893

Integrity: Altered

Reason for Application:

Recognizing the historical and architectural significance of the Old City Hall, William J. Decker, a member of the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society, submitted an application dated July 11, 1997 requesting local historic district designation of the building. (The Fort Wayne City Hall has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since June 4, 1973.) Mr. Decker asked that the Fort Wayne Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) consider initiating an historic district recommendation for this local landmark based on its survey, pursuant to Chapter 151 of Fort Wayne's Municipal Code. Prior to the July 28, 1997 HPRB meeting, staff informed the president of the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society Board of Directors, Tony McNair, that an application was on file. (The Old City Hall is owned by the Historical Society.) The HPRB considered the application at the July 28 meeting and adopted a resolution which directed staff to research this potential designation and present it for consideration by the HPRB at its August 25, 1997 meeting. The HPRB also directed staff to properly notify the historical society board of the potential designation, and to consult with the board in order to gain its input on the potential local historic designation. Staff attended the August 19, 1997 historical society board meeting in order to inform its members of the potential designation, and HPRB policies and procedures for locally designated historic properties. To date the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society Board has not expressed an objection to the local designation of the property.

Staff Comments:

Section 151.10-13 of Fort Wayne's Municipal Code allows for the designation of historic districts. In applying the criteria set forth in the ordinance, it has been determined by staff that the subject property meets Historic Criterion (A)(1) "Has significant character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state or nation," and also meets Criterion (A)(3) "Exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historical heritage of the community." Staff also finds that the subject property meets the criteria for "architecturally worthy" buildings, specifically Criteria (B)(2) "Embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural or engineering type;" (B)(3) "Is the work of a designer whose individual work has significantly influenced the development of the community;" (B)(6) "Contains any architectural style, detail or other element in danger of becoming extinct;" and (B)(7) "Owing to its unique location or physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood or the city."

Description:

The Old Fort Wayne City Hall, which is identified above its E. Berry Street entrance as "The City Building," was built in 1893 at the southeast corner of E. Berry and S. Barr Street. It was designed by the prominent Fort Wayne architectural firm of John F. Wing and Marshall Mahurin, and is one of two major non-residential examples of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture which remain in Fort Wayne. (The other building is the Schmitz Block on S. Calhoun Street.)

The City Building is a massive three-story sandstone structure with a rusticated base which supports alternating courses of rusticated and smooth-cut sandstone. Its slate-covered hipped roof is complicated by a variety of cross-gables and a tall hexagonal tower, with a steeply-pitched roof, at the northwest corner. This hexagonal tower, and three other square corner towers with pyramidal roofs, have decorative stonework in a checkerboard pattern near the tops of their walls. The building is further elaborated by carved sandstone columns, panels and friezes of carved floral ornamentation, and a number of stone arches and belt courses. A pair of sandstone griffins guard the building as they cling to a parapeted wall dormer on the facade. The majority of the windows fill rectangular openings with one-over-one double-hung sash. A number of windows are topped by rectangular or round-arched transoms. Half-round windows above the front doors and in select locations in various dormers are enriched with decorative muntins. The building retains excellent integrity with the exception of the addition of an elevator/stair tower and entry area which was added to the east side in 1979 to provide handicap access to the building. The addition rises to the eaves of the original building and terminates with a flat roof and parapet. Its walls are covered with fluted, light brown concrete block. A shed-roofed entry area of glass and brown aluminum framing faces south. Prior to World War II, the west doors along Barr Street were removed and replaced with matching windows and sandstone. A second garage door and bay was added to the south side of the building, adjacent to an original opening which also remains.

Among the significant interior spaces of The City Building are the City Council/City Court Room, the large interior halls highlighted by the grand stairway between the first and second floors, and the intact City Jail. The central hall, which runs north-south through the building on the first floor, retains its original marble floor. A number of doors along the walls of this hall once led to individual offices. A grand stairway of golden oak rises from the central hall toward the east, and to a landing on the east wall of the building. This landing between the first and second floors is lighted by a large arched window. Two smaller stairways lead from the landing to the second floor, continuing the golden oak railings. The City Council/City Court Room is a very large, open room at the front of the building on the second floor. It retains its original oak woodwork and paneling, as well as decorative plaster. It is used by the historical society as a gallery for special exhibits. The original City Jail is located in the basement of the building. A remarkably intact example of a small, late-nineteenth century jail, it retains much of its 1890s configuration. A cell block is located on the east side of the building, with a steel structure of individual cells placed in the center of the room. A separate cell for women is located on the west side of the building.

Significance:

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973, the Old City Hall is significant as an excellent example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture. It is a rare non-residential expression of the style in Fort Wayne, and it has the highest possible rating of "Outstanding" in the Fort Wayne cultural resources survey. Richardsonian Romanesque buildings were never common. They are always masonry and usually have at least some rough-faced stonework, often with contrasting colors creating decorative patterns. Wide, rounded arches supported by short, squat columns are characteristic of the style. Round, or sometimes polygonal, towers with steep roofs are common, usually with arcaded windows near the top. Interlacing floral designs are the most common decorative details. All these distinctive features are present in The City Building, while it is also the only sandstone Richardsonian Romanesque structure which remains in Fort Wayne. The building is also significant as a premier example of the work of the architectural firm of Wing & Mahurin. John F. Wing and Marshall Mahurin of Fort Wayne worked in partnership from 1882 to 1907. They designed scores of significant buildings throughout Indiana and Ohio, but their work most significantly influenced the architectural development of Fort Wayne.

The Old City Hall also gained an "Outstanding" rating in the Fort Wayne cultural resources survey based upon its historical significance. With the completion of The City Building in 1893, Fort Wayne's city government had a substantial, permanent home for the first time. The building was a bold statement of the city's increasing size and wealth in the industrial boom years of the late nineteenth century. It also reflects the development of city government as an organized, unified organization which had an expanding role in the development of the community. The Old City Hall served as the hub of all city services from 1893 until the completion of the City-County Building in the late 1960s. It housed city functions such as the mayor's offices, the police department, and the street department until the last department moved out in the summer of 1969.

Staff Recommendations:

For the reasons stated above, staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Review Board, based on its survey, recommend The City Building (Old Fort Wayne City Hall) for historic district designation and submit the required documentation to the Planning Commission for review and comment, and to the Fort Wayne City Council for final approval pursuant to Chapter 151 of the Municipal Code.



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Donald A. Orban, Historic Preservation Planner, Community and Economic Development *DAO*

DATE: September 25, 1997

SUBJECT: Historic District Designation

Fort Wayne's Historic Preservation and Protection Ordinance (G-10-84), was established to preserve and protect those historically or architecturally worthy structures, sites, and districts which impart a distinct aesthetic quality to the city and which serve as visible reminders of the historic heritage of the city. To assist in achieving this goal, criteria are set forth in the ordinance for the establishment of multiple and single property historic districts.

Pursuant to Chapter 151 of the municipal code, the Historic Preservation Review Board has held public hearings and approved the designation of the following property as a local historic district:

<u>Bldg. Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Allen County/Fort Wayne Historical Museum (City Building/Old City Hall)	302 East Berry Street

In compliance with section 151.12 (D) of this code, a map of the district approved by the HPRB was submitted to the Planning Commission for review on September 22, 1997 for review and comment.

The Old City Hall was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

The Historic Preservation Review Board recommends that the Council adopt the attached ordinance amendment in recognition of the historical value of the property and to afford protection of this landmark for future generations.

Attached, please find the required map of the property approved for designation by the HPRB as well as the review detailing the buildings' significance.

Read the first time in full and on motion by Ravine,
and duly adopted, read the second time by title and referred to the Committee on
Regulations, (and the City Plan Commission for recommendation)
and Public Hearing to be held after due legal notice, at the Common Council Conference
Room 128, City-County Building, Fort Wayne, Indiana, on _____,
the _____ day of _____, 19____, at _____
o'clock _____ M., E.S.T.

DATED: 10-14-97

Sandra E. Kennedy
SANDRA E. KENNEDY, CITY CLERK

Read the third time in full and on motion by Ravine,
and duly adopted, placed on its passage. PASSED
by the following vote:

	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
TOTAL VOTES	<u>9</u>			
BENDER	<u>✓</u>			
CRAWFORD	<u>✓</u>			
EDMONDS	<u>✓</u>			
HALL	<u>✓</u>			
HAYHURST	<u>✓</u>			
HENRY	<u>✓</u>			
LUNSEY	<u>✓</u>			
RAVINE	<u>✓</u>			
SCHMIDT	<u>✓</u>			

DATED: 10-28-97

Sandra E. Kennedy
SANDRA E. KENNEDY, CITY CLERK

Passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana,

as (ANNEXATION) _____ (APPROPRIATION) _____ (GENERAL) _____ (SPECIAL) _____

(ZONING) _____

ORDINANCE

RESOLUTION NO. J-95-97

on the 28th day of October, 1997

Sandra E. Kennedy
SANDRA E. KENNEDY, CITY CLERK

SEAL

Thomas P. Helmke
PRESIDING OFFICER

Presented by me to the Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, on the

29th day of October, 1997
at the hour of 11:00 o'clock A. M., E.S.T.

Approved and signed by me this 2nd day
of November, 1997, at the hour of 4:00
o'clock P. M., E.S.T.

PAUL HELMKE
PAUL HELMKE, MAYOR

BILL NO. S-97-10-03

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS

REBECCA J. RAVINE - THOMAS E. HAYHURST - CO-CHAIR
ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

WE, YOUR COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS TO WHOM WAS
REFERRED AN (ORDINANCE) ~~(RESOLUTION)~~ amending Ordinance Number
G-10-84 dealing with Historic Preservation Districts

HAVE HAD SAID (ORDINANCE) ~~(RESOLUTION)~~ UNDER CONSIDERATION
AND BEG LEAVE TO REPORT BACK TO THE COMMON COUNCIL THAT SAID
(ORDINANCE) ~~(RESOLUTION)~~

DO PASS

DO NOT PASS

ABSTAIN

NO REC

Rebecca Ravine

Thomas E. Hayhurst

Patricia M. ...

Robert A. ...

Thomas Hayhurst

O.S.D.

DATED: 10-28-97.

Sandra E. Kennedy
City Clerk